

In the Matter of the Request of Information &  
Communications Services, Inc., Econocall  
Division, to Increase Interlata Long Distance  
Rates

ISSUE DATE: November 5, 1987

DOCKET NO. P453/M-87-627

ORDER APPROVING INCREASE IN  
INTERLATA LONG DISTANCE RATES

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On September 29, 1987 Information & Communications Services, Inc., Econocall Division (Econocall) filed with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) a request to increase its interlata long distance rates by 5%.

In its Report of Investigation and Recommendation, dated October 22, 1987, the Minnesota Department of Public Service (the DPS) recommended that the Commission accept the Company's proposal, pending completion of rulemaking proceedings on the problem of geographical deaveraging of rates.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Commission finds that the Company's proposal would result in increased geographical deaveraging of Econocall's interlata rates. Rates in the area where the 507 LATA changes to the 612 LATA, which were previously averaged rates, would become deaveraged under the proposal.

The Commission continues to disapprove of geographical deaveraging, for the reasons set forth in its October 15, 1985 Order in docket number P-442/NA-84-212, pp. 21-22. The Commission finds that the problems associated with geographical deaveraging are complex and serious and should be addressed by the Commission in future rulemaking.

ORDER

1. The Company's proposed interlata long distance rate increase is approved, pending a rulemaking on geographical deaveraging of rates.
2. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Mary Ellen Hennen  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)